

**New Shoreham Deer Task Force
Tuesday, October 16, 2012
Town Hall, Old Town Road
5:00 p.m.**

Present: Chris Blane, Becky Ballard, Mary Sue Record, Sara McGinnes, Paul Deane did not arrive until 5:35 p.m.

Not present: Ruth Perfido, George Mellor

Present in the audience were Bill McKiernan, Howell Conant, Joe Morris, and Stephanie Turaj

Meeting was called to order by Mary Sue Record at 5:05 p.m.

Public Input: Candidates for council Bill McKiernan and Howell Conant expressed their interest in learning what the task force was doing.

Approval of minutes from September 18, 2012 – This item was tabled for a quorum of members who had read the minutes.

Discussion and advisory re Proposed Amendment to New Shoreham's Revised Ordinances Chapter 10 Section 16 Hunting, take of game and discharge of firearms.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Sara McGinnes and seconded by Becky Ballard to have the Deer Task Force advise the Town Council that after considering the proposed amendment, the Deer Task Force oppose this on the grounds that it does not promote significant reduction or elimination of the deer herd.

Ayes 3 (Ballard, Record McGinnes) Nays 2 (Deane, Blane) Absent 2 (Mellor, Perfido)

The motion did not pass. Mary Sue Record will write a note to Kim Gaffet.

Feedback from BIRA-Mary Sue Record reported that BIRA did send out the hunting interest forms to their membership. She read some comments from the BIRA survey.

Website – Having gotten permission from Nancy Dodge; clerk will make sure that the following items are on the site: hunting dates; link to the abstracts, procedures for hunting, methods investigated by the Deer Task Force for reduction/elimination of the herd.

Check stations –Chris Blane circulated some ideas he had about check stations.

After discussion, a motion was made by Sara McGinnes to have the Deer Task Force ask the Town Council to approve the proposal for a check station on Block Island. This motion was withdrawn.

A motion was made by Chris Blane and seconded by Paul Deane to have the Deer Task Force recommend to the Town Council that a check station be established for the purpose of checking in all deer taken on Block Island and to be included in the regulations for the next hunting season.

Ayes 5 (Record, Ballard, McGinnes, Blane, Deane) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Mellor, Perfido)

Dept. of Agriculture and Wildlife Services – Mary Sue Record reported on a conversation with Tim Cozine of this organization about managed hunts. Discussed were

- USDA contract with RIAC for Deer Control at Airport
- Working with DEM to establish target goals.
- State hunting laws do not need changing. Dispensation can be granted by DEM.
- Land owner permission is necessary; meat is donated.
- Funding

DEM-A motion was made after discussion by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Sara McGinnes to have the Deer Task Force try to set up a meeting with the DEM to explore options and see what they can offer us.

Ayes 5 (Record, Ballard, McGinnes, Blane, Deane) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Mellor, Perfido)

Information from DEM about Rodman's Hollow/Black Rock –Guidelines for Rodman's Hollow/Black Rock Hunt – Chris Blane had a sheet with suggestions for the hunt. (see attached). Paul Deane had spoken to the DEM and had gotten some clarification. He will continue to work on this.

White Buffalo – tabled

Follow up with TNC about bow and arrow survey: In Ruth Perfido's absence, Becky Ballard reported that Scott Comings, BIC and BILT plan to participate in a bow and arrow feasibility study for this winter.

Discussion with Nancy Dodge/Amy Land re: fundraising: Nancy Dodge had said that donations/ fundraising could go into a restricted fund honored by the Town.

Transfer Station costs – BIRA- Becky Ballard reported that she had filled in an online request form for transfer station costs to be discussed at BIRA's next meeting on October 20, 2012.

Statistics from the Medical Center- Becky Ballard reported that she and Mary Sue Record had met with Dr. Baute and the task force will be receiving statistics for 2011 and 2012.

US Fish and Wildlife – Is on track for hunting this year.

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Chris Blane to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Minutes approved: 11/13/2012

Bonny Ryan

